



## Pentecost Sunday

June 8, 2014

They were all filled with the Holy Spirit!

### **The Holy Spirit Helps Us To Know Jesus**

Pentecost is one of the three most important feasts of the Church year. Christmas is one of the three. And the feast of Jesus' resurrection – Easter – is the most important of all three, because if there were no resurrection, we would have no faith or hope at all. The Jews were celebrating Pentecost 3,000 years ago. It was one of their three most important feasts. Originally, it was a harvest feast on which the first fruits were offered in gratitude to God. It later came to be celebrated as the anniversary of the giving of the Law to Moses on Mt Sinai. The word itself means simply 50<sup>th</sup>, the 50<sup>th</sup> day after the Jewish Passover. The Jews were celebrating the feast when the Spirit came on Jesus' followers. And so Pentecost is still celebrated, but we who are Christians celebrate it as the day on which God sent his Holy Spirit upon the Church.

Pentecost isn't just the celebration of a past event. It is important for us today, because the Holy Spirit is important for us today. The Spirit is hard to picture, because it is like the air, unable to be seen, but something that we cannot live without. In the waters of Baptism, the Christian receives the Spirit, and water – as you know – gives life. Nothing lives without it. Hence Jesus says of the Spirit: "He will guide you to all truth." A few examples might help. If we want to know something about rocks, we go find rocks. They won't come to us, and they won't run away from us. In no way do they cooperate with us in getting to know them. The initiative is all on our side if we are to know rocks. If we want to study wild animals, that's a little different. We've got to go find them, and they could run away from us. We have to be very quiet in observing them. The initiative is mostly on our part if we are to know about wild animals, but they can attempt to prevent us from knowing them. If we want to know another human being and they are determined for us not to know them, we probably won't. We have to win their confidence if they are going to open up to us. The initiative is equally divided: it takes two to make a friendship. When it comes to God, there is no way we could find Him or know Him if he didn't show Himself to us. And he has done so in Jesus Christ. But we cannot know Jesus without the help of the Spirit, as St Paul says in our reading: "No one can say Jesus is Lord except in the Holy Spirit." And if we live by the Spirit, "the Spirit will produce in us love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, humility and self-control."

Fr. Gabriel Wankar  
Priest-in-Residence

# Mass for the Intentions *Week*

**June 7 – 14, 2014**

	<b>Intention</b>	<b>Requested by</b>
Saturday, June 7	5 p.m. Flaviana J. Ramos †	Ferreros Family
Sunday, June 8	8 a.m. Renaldo Marin †	Marin Family
	9:30 a.m. Woo & Dong Families †	Nancy & John Woo
	11 a.m. Eugenio Artiaga †	Reyline Artiaga
	12:30 p.m. Isabel & Larry Ponce †	Jasmin Salcedo
	6 p.m. St. John's Parishioners	Brazilian Community
Monday, June 9	8 a.m. Ana L. Alunday – Healing	Jose Remo
Tuesday, June 10	8 a.m. Silver Wedding Anniversary	Frank & Gerri Hampton
Wednesday, June 11	8 a.m. Adelle Salas †	Asuncion Family
Thursday, June 12	8 a.m. Enzo Lencioni †	Gina Lencioni
Friday, June 13	8 a.m. Jim & Queen Sanders †	Sanders Family
Saturday, June 14	8 a.m. St. John's Parishioners	St. John the Baptist Parish
	5 p.m. Elide & Luis Ayuso †	Eulalia McEntire

## Stewardship

Envelopes & EFT (136)	\$5,537
Loose Donations	<u>2,238</u>
Total Regular Collection	\$7,775
Parish & School Development	\$1,603
Next Weekend: Father's Day	

**Please remember St. John's in your will.**

## Message of Stewardship

In the second reading today, St. Paul reminds the Corinthians, "There are different gifts, but the same Spirit, there are different ministries, but the same Lord." How am I using my gifts for the common good?



Sophia Yanguas



Ernest Del Simone

## CRE Needs More Teachers

Our Children's Religious Education program needs two more teachers for the fall. .

Classes are held on Sunday mornings, starting in September. If interested, please call Lynne Evans at 501-4894.

## Let Us Pray for the Sick:

Crisostomo & Virginia Alday, Jade Austin, Evelyn Baker, Stella Baptista, Pearl & Patrick Batiste, Barbara Brendlinger, Robert Britto, Richard Calapini, Evelyn Canepa, Jeff Chavez, Bernadine Clark, Jennette Cleadenger, Betty Cooper, Ernesto P. Cruz, Deloris Davis, Tami Duncan, Juanita Estrellas, Philomena Giese, Mike Giovannini, Teresa Grant, Domingos Gregorio, Andy Gutierrez, Ruben Gutierrez, Maydelle Halligan, Frances, Marvin and Maurice Haynes, Helen Holloway, Tamaya Hunt, Pat & Ray Jeffre, Ann Jones, Addie Kasari, Robin Laws, Maria Impang Lozada, Marian and Michael Luoma, Benigno Macasieb, Nancy McVey, Philip Moore, Judith Padilla, Theresa Parella, Angelina Patacsil, Victoria Payless, Javier Ramos, Linda Schneider, Jack Sudall, Salvador Tejero, Anna Verbanac, Sarah Vidal, Janice Williamson, Helene Wulbern.

Please call the rectory to add or remove names.

## **Vacation Bible Camp**

St. John's 13th annual Vacation Bible Day Camp that will take place June 23-27, with the theme: WeirD Animals is just two weeks away!



Back by popular demand, R+ dog owner-trainer Janette Rael and Canine Centric's Lea Orloski will talk about the proper way to treat dogs.

As part of the afternoon program, East Bay Vivarium will bring reptiles and tell about Rain Forest animals.

There will also be a "sciency" fun-learning experience about animals and their habitats.

And there will be two community service projects honoring our veterans.

Kids will experience and be empowered by all the unexpected ways Jesus demonstrated his unconditional love. They will see the Golden Rule in action. Love changes everything – especially the way we see and treat others.

On-line registration is available through the parish website ([sjtbc.us](http://sjtbc.us)). Forms are also available at the church exits, church and school offices.

Due to St. John's School refurbishing, this year, the camp will be held at St. Jerome Catholic School, 320 San Carlos Ave., in El Cerrito.

Questions? Call Pam Vincent at 507-8694.

## **Parish Blood Drive June 29**

St. John's semi-annual Blood Drive will be on Sunday, June 29, from 9:45 a.m. to 1:45 p.m. in the Community Center

For more information, please call Joe Orr at (home) 237-5568 or (work) 450 7833.

### **St. John's Seniors**

St. John the Baptist Community Center  
6500 Gladys Ave., corner of Lexington

Director: Jan Duckart 527-2850

Telephone 237-3808 on Tuesdays

June 10: Clare Smith

Elder Financial Protection Network

Lunch at 12:30 p.m.

## **Flowers for Ordinary Time**

During the Easter season and throughout the month of May devoted to Our Blessed Mother, we have enjoyed an array of flowers adorning the church. The flowers have brought a natural beauty to our liturgical environment. As we move into Ordinary Time, it would be wonderful if we could continue to have fresh flowers and greenery in the church – in the various devotional areas as well as the small chapel.

Although we have special collections for Easter & Christmas flowers, these collections alone cannot sustain the purchase of flowers and plants throughout the year. Therefore, I am soliciting your help in either contributing flowers or making donations specifically for floral decorations during Ordinary Time. If you can donate flowers on a given week, please let me know in advance and bring the flowers to the office by Friday. Flowers can be picked from your garden or purchased from the store.

I hope you can join me in creating a church environment that reflects beauty and life in God's creation, thereby enhancing our worship. Please contact me by phone (701-8333), or email me at [oswong214@gmail.com](mailto:oswong214@gmail.com) if you can help.

– Olivia Wong

Church Decoration and Liturgical Environment

## **Miracles on Exhibit**

On Friday through Monday, June 13-16, Our Lady of Peace Church in Santa Clara will present an outdoor exhibition of *The Eucharistic Miracles of the World* – a catalogue of the Vatican International Exhibition.

With an extensive assortment of photographs and historical descriptions, the exhibition presents some of the principal Eucharistic miracles that took place throughout the ages in various countries and which have been recognized by the Church.

By means of the 173 panels, one can "virtually visit" the places where the miracles took place.

Our Lady of Peace Church is located at 2800 Mission College Blvd. in Santa Clara, near Hwy.101. See [www.olop-shrine.org](http://www.olop-shrine.org), e-mail [info@olop-shrine.org](mailto:info@olop-shrine.org), or phone (408) 988-4585.

## Join a Church Ministry

### **Altar Server**

Contact: Fr. Duda 232-5659

### **5 p.m. Saturday Vigil Choir**

Contact: Marissa Bautista 502-5076

### **9:30 a.m. Youth Choir**

Contact: Andy Gutierrez 559-3762

### **11 a.m. Adult Choir**

Contact: Andy Gutierrez 559-3762

### **12:30 p.m. Multi-Cultural Choir**

Contact: Ligia Britto 525-9066

### **Church Cleaner**

Contact: Noreen Shaughnessy 235-6640

### **Church Environment/Decorators**

Contact: Olivia Wong 233-1088

### **Church Linens**

Contact: Corinne Drymon 417-6999

### **Eucharistic Minister**

Contact: Tom Kennedy 501-3956

### **Lector**

Contact: Mer Engalla 669-9204

### **Ministry to the Sick**

Contact: Elizabeth Martinez 741-7993

### **Usher**

Contact: Geraldine Judt 233-1960

## Carmelites to Kensington

The Discalced Carmelite nuns, currently living in the village of Canyon near Moraga, are anticipating a move to their new home in Kensington soon.

The Sisters in this contemplative order live an exceedingly simple life that does not include use of the internet. In January, a very generous benefactor made possible their move the monastery in Kensington. The buildings, however, are in a sad state of disrepair and need significant work before the nuns will be able to move in.

Learn about their mission, story and material needs by visiting [oakdiocese.org/carmelites](http://oakdiocese.org/carmelites).

## School Enrollment Open

St. John's School is accepting applications for enrollment and tuition assistance for all grades.

You can call the school at 234-2244.

## Fr. Gabriel Says Thank You

Dear Parishioners of St John the Baptist,

I write to acknowledge and appreciate your support and donations toward my tuition. Your prompt response and generosity deeply touches my heart. Total donations received by my school from you amounted to \$4,475 (as of May 31). It will interest you to know that the value of your donations is more than the equivalence of a Nigerian priest's income for a whole year.

Just before Easter, I spoke with my bishop in Nigeria of my outstanding finances in school. Our discussion ended with him in tears, and it became clear to me that I had to stop my studies at the end of the school year and head back home.

A week later, a parishioner approached me after morning Mass and asked, "Fr, can I ask you how you go about your tuition in school?" I had difficulties in explaining, but his persistence led me to give him the picture. A week later, I saw a note in the parish bulletin appealing for tuition assistance on my behalf.

All I can say now is that miracles still happen, and St John the Baptist is my miracle. Thank you for keeping me in school.

– Fr. Gabriel Wankar

## Got Extra Teacups?

Please mark your calendars for St. John's 11th annual Parish Tea on Saturday, Oct.4.

Do you have any china teacups and saucers, teapots or large silver serving trays with handles that are collecting dust, taking up much-needed space or you no longer want? Due to the success of the annual tea, this would be an ideal way to see these items used and enjoyed.

Items can be dropped off at the parish office, or call Susan Bitner at 236-1250 for pickup.

## Charismatic Service Saturday

Our monthly Charismatic prayer service, originally scheduled for Saturday, June 7, will be held at 7 p.m. next Saturday, June 14, in church.

The service was moved to make way for the last day of our parish's Holy Spirit Novena.

A reception will follow at 9 p.m.in the Conference Room.

## **Contra Costa Crisis Center**

Contra Costa Crisis Center has operated hotlines 24 hours a day, seven days a week since 1963.

All their services are free and confidential. They're certified by the American Association of Suicidology.

All services are provided by skilled professionals and trained volunteers and staff.

### **Information and Referral**

211

They operate 211, the toll-free phone number to call daily or after a disaster for information about all kinds of local health and social services.

### **Crisis Lines**

800-833-2900

800-273-8255  
(800-273-TALK)

800-784-2433  
(800-SUICIDE)

They answer 24-hour crisis, suicide, grief, homeless, child abuse and elder abuse hotlines, plus all local calls to two national suicide hotlines.

### **Crisis Chat**

[www.crisis-center.org](http://www.crisis-center.org)

(click on chat icon)

### **Grief Counseling**

800-837-1818

They provide face-to-face counseling – individually and in groups – to youths and adults mourning the death of a loved one.

### **Homeless Services**

800-808-6444

They provide support, information, referrals, emergency motel vouchers and free voice mail boxes to homeless individuals and families.

## **Mozart Extravaganza**

Come and enjoy the San Francisco Boys Chorus (SFBC) Spring Concert featuring the magical voices of the Concert Chorus and Graduate Chorus, at 8 p.m. Saturday, June 14, at Christ the Light Cathedral.

The joyous evening also features SFBC's Intermediate Chorus and the Handbell Ensemble.

Get your tickets for this extraordinary performance of the works of Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart by going online to [ctlcathedral.org](http://ctlcathedral.org) and looking for the link to the San Francisco Boys Chorus Spring Concert.

## **Natural Family Planning**

Natural Family Planning (NFP) is an umbrella term referring to multiple methods of natural family planning based on naturally-occurring fertility indicators.

It is possible to learn NFP on your own, but the best way to learn is through a certified instructor. The Oakland Diocese offers classes in three methods of NFP. All three are effective.

An introductory session for an ovulation method (Creighton) will be held from 11 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. on Saturday, June 28 in the Vietnamese Martyrs Room of Christ the Light Cathedral.

For details, please contact Mary Anne Anderson at 925-315-1650 or [manderson@fertilityappreciation.com](mailto:manderson@fertilityappreciation.com), or see [oakdiocese.org/NFP](http://oakdiocese.org/NFP).

## **Life in the Spirit Seminar**

A Life in the Spirit Seminar will be presented Saturday, June 21, by St. Mary's Charismatic Prayer Group in Walnut Creek.

The event will take place from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. in the Parish Hall Conference Room at 2039 Mt. Diablo Blvd.

The seminar will present the basic Christian message of salvation, and what it means to live "life" in the Holy Spirit.

Coffee, tea, muffins and water will be provided. Please bring a bag lunch.

For more information, contact Jim Crowley at 925-944-0359.